

Maine School Administrative District No. 9

115 ~~Leamy~~ School Lane
New Sharon, Maine 04955
Farmington 04938

Telephone: (207) 778-6571

Fax: (207) 778-4160

September 11, 2008

Dear Commissioner Gendron:


Enclosed is a completed copy of the Reorganization Plan for the Western Mountains School District (MSAD #9, MSAD #58, Coplin and Highland Plantations.

It would be very helpful to have a quick response to this plan so we can move forward with planning for the vote in November.

I am submitting the plan and a copy of the minutes of the RPC meeting for your information and review. It is my understanding that each of the other systems will send you a separate letter that can be attached to the RPC plan included with this letter.

Please let me know if you require additional information.

Sincerely,


Michael Cormier
Superintendent of Schools

***Committed to providing an environment where students can
achieve their maximum potential.***

CHESTERVILLE • FARMINGTON • INDUSTRY • NEW SHARON • NEW VINEYARD
TEMPLE • VIENNA • WELD • WILTON

REORGANIZATION PLAN SUBMITTAL SHEET

(Each municipality in a School Union must be indicated separately.)

School Administrative Units Included in APPROVED Notice of Intent	School Administrative Units Submitting Reorganization Plan
Coplin Plantation	Coplin Plantation
Highland Plantation	Highland Plantation
MSAD #9	MSAD #9
MSAD #58	MSAD #58

Contact Information:

RPC Chair

Name: Raymond Glass \ Rupert Pratt Co Chairs

Address: 164 Stewart Ave. \ PO Box 132


Farmington, ME 04938 \ Strong, ME 04983

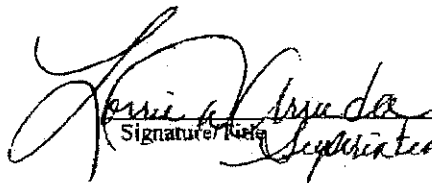
Telephone: 778-6785 \ 684-4733

email: rglass@maine.edu \ rrfarm@tdstelme.net

Date Plan Submitted: September 10, 2008

Proposed RSU Operational Date: July 1, 2009

Signature/Title	Date	Coplin Plantation SAU
Signature/Title	Date	Highland Plantation SAU
 Signature/Title	9/10/08 Date	MSAD #9 SAU
Signature/Title	Date	MSAD #58 SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU


Signature/Title *Superintendent* Date *9/11/08*

Coplin Plantation

SAU

Highland Plantation

SAU

MSAD #9

SAU

MSAD #58

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

9/10/08

Signature/Title

Date

Signature/Title

Date

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title

Date

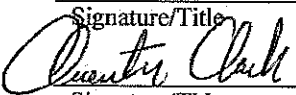
SAU

Signature/Title

Date

SAU

Signature/Title	Date	Coplin Plantation
<i>Brenda Jay Stevens -</i>	<i>9.4.08</i>	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	Highland Plantation
<i>Supl. - Highland Pt</i>		SAU
Signature/Title	9/10/08	MSAD #9
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		MSAD #58
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		SAU
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		SAU
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		SAU
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		SAU
	Date	SAU
Signature/Title		SAU
	Date	SAU

Signature/Title	Date	Coplin Plantation SAU
Signature/Title	Date	Highland Plantation SAU
Signature/Title	9/10/08	MSAD #9
 / SUPERINTENDENT	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	9/12/08	MSAD #58
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU
Signature/Title	Date	SAU

Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet

(Please attach Reorganization Plan as Exhibit A)

Required Elements							
Law Reference Item Number Sub- Chapter 2	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ¹	Need Assistance ²
3.A(1)	SAUs included in RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(2)	Size of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Composition of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Apportionment of governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(3)	Method of voting of the governing body		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(4)	Composition of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Powers of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Duties of local school committees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(5)	Disposition of real & personal school property		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(6)	Disposition of existing school indebtedness (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disposition of lease-purchase obligations (if not using provisions of section 1506)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(7)	Assignment of school personnel contracts		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of school collective bargaining agreements		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Assignment of other school contractual obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(8)	Disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(9)	Transition plan that addresses the development of a budget for the first school year		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transition plan that addresses interim personnel policies		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(10)	Documentation of the public meeting(s) held to prepare or review reorganization plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(11)	Explanation of how units that approve reorganization plan will proceed if one or more units do not approve the plan		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(12)	Estimate of cost savings to be achieved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.A(13)	Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

² Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

Parameters for Plan Development							
Law Reference Item Number Sub- Chapter 2	Item	N/A	Complete	In Progress	Not Yet Started	Identified Barrier ³	Need Assistance ⁴
3.B(1)	Enrollment meets requirements (2,500 except where circumstances justify an exception ⁵)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-36, Parameter B	When viewed in conjunction with surrounding proposed units, may not result in one or more municipalities being denied the option to join an RSU		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(2)	Comprehensive programming for all students grades K - 12.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Includes at least one publicly supported high school		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(3)	Consistent with policies set forth in section 1451		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.B(4)	No displacement of teachers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No displacement of students		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No closures of schools existing or operating during school year immediately preceding reorganization, except as permitted under section 1512		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sec. XXXX-26, Parameter F	The plan must address how the school administrative unit will reorganize administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that the projected expenditures of the reorganized school unit in fiscal year 2008-2009 for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program ⁶		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collaborative Agreements							
						Yes	No
Does your plan currently include information/documentation on collaborative agreements? (not required, but encouraged)						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Exceptions to 2,500 minimum

Actual number of students for which the SAU is fiscally responsible: _____

Exception	Exception Claimed in Plan	Documentation Provided? (Please attach as Exhibit B)	
		Yes	No
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demographics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Population Density	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Unique Circumstances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

³ Please explain why this is a barrier and what assistance you need to remove this barrier on the next page.

⁴ Please explain what assistance you need to complete this portion of your plan, and state from whom you need assistance, on page 3.

⁵ Please note in the *Exceptions to 2500 minimum* section on next page

⁶ This requirement is only for those who plan to be operational as an RSU in fiscal year 2008-2009, in accordance with a Reorganization Plan that is approved by the Commissioner and by the voters.

Explanation of Barriers –

Please use this section to explain any/all barriers identified on the previous page as a barrier in completing your Reorganization Plan.

Law Reference/Required Element	Explanation of the barrier

Assistance Needs –

Please use this section to describe your needs for assistance and from whom you need assistance.

Law Reference/Required Element	Explanation of your assistance need	Assistance needed from whom?

Western Mountains School District
Regional Planning Committee
September 4, 2008

Meeting called to order by Rupert Pratt at 6:35 pm

Rupert updated the committee on the activity that has occurred since we last met. The finance committee met with Jim Rier in Augusta on August 21. The finance committee again met on September 2 to discuss what recommendation the committee will make to the full RPC committee. The finance committee briefly met prior to this meeting to review the printed recommendation to the Regional Planning Committee.

Jim Rier provided financial spreadsheets using fiscal year 2009 approved budget figures and explained the calculation of cost sharing of the proposed RSU for additional local funds including local only debt. He then provided a second spreadsheet with an illustration of an alternative way to share additional local funds.

The finance committee recommendation was shared and discussed. John Calloway made a motion to keep the financial plan as already submitted. Christina Brackley seconded the motion.

(After a lengthy discussion period, Neil Stinneford moved the question. The chair decided that discussion should continue.)

Yes 9 No 14 Abstain Spencer Thompson

Neil Stinneford made motion to approve the cost sharing proposal as presented by the finance committee. Jo Josephson seconded the motion.

Yes 13 No 9 Abstain Spencer Thompson, Mark Prentiss

Neil Stinneford made the motion to authorize the changes to the plan requested by the Department of Education. Fay Adams seconded the motion.

Motion carried

Neil Stinneford made a motion to include Quenten's proposal for the process for changing the cost sharing formula in the final plan. Paul Gooch seconded the motion. The final language will be developed tomorrow.

Motion carried

Western Mountains School District REORGANIZATION PLAN

SAU Submitting: MSAD #9, MSAD #58, Coplin and Highland Plantations

Contact Information: Michael Cormier, Quenten Clark, Lorrie Arruda, Brenda Stevens

Date Submitted by SAU: November 29, 2007

Proposed RSU Operational Date: July 1, 2009 **(Voted October 25, 2007)**

The Reorganizational Planning Committee voted to support the following name:

Western Mountains School District **(Voted November 15, 2007)**

3. The method of voting of the governing body.

The motion in section two included the use of Option D with Weighted Votes.

METHOD "D" WEIGHTED VOTING - that is in compliance of the "one man - one vote principle"

Municipality	2006 Est. Federal Decennial Census	Percent of Population	Total Votes	Number of Directors	Number of Votes		%age of Voting Power per Director	Total Votes by Municipality
					Per Director	Director		
Coplin Plt.	133	0.6%	133	1	133		0.6%	133
Highland Plt.	53	0.2%	53	1	53		0.2%	53
Chesterville	1,245	5.6%	1,245	1	1,245		5.6%	1,245
Farmington	7,580	33.9%	7,580	7	1,083		4.8%	7,581
Industry	784	3.5%	784	1	784		3.5%	784
New Sharon	1,386	6.2%	1,386	1	1,386		6.2%	1,386
New Vineyard	774	3.5%	774	1	774		3.5%	774
Temple	572	2.6%	572	1	572		2.6%	572
Vienna	565	2.5%	565	1	565		2.5%	565
Weld	407	1.8%	407	1	407		1.8%	407
Wilton	4,200	18.8%	4,200	4	1,050		4.7%	4,200
Avon	493	2.2%	493	1	493		2.2%	493
Eustis	742	3.3%	742	1	742		3.3%	742
Kingfield	1,148	5.1%	1,148	1	1,148		5.1%	1,148
Phillips	1,029	4.6%	1,029	1	1,029		4.6%	1,029
Strong	1,228	5.5%	1,228	1	1,228		5.5%	1,228
TOTALS	22,339	100.0%	22,339	25				

4. The composition, powers and duties of any local school committees to be created.

There will be no local school committees.

5. The disposition of real and personal school property. (Voted November 15, 2007)

All property is transferred unless listed as an exception.

A. Real Property and Fixtures. Except as listed below, all real property interests, including without limitation land, buildings, other improvements to realty, easements, option rights, first refusal rights, and purchase rights, and all fixtures, of the school administrative units shall be property of the regional school unit. The regional school unit board may require such deeds, assignments or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish the region's right, title and interest in such real property and fixtures.

The following real property interests and associated fixtures shall not be transferred:

<u>Name of SAU</u>	<u>Description of Excluded Property</u>
Highland Plantation	Ministerial Trust Land

Ministerial/Plantation Land Trust. These land trusts shall remain the property of the plantation or municipality.

All real property and fixtures not described in the above list shall be transferred to the regional school unit.

Any excepted real property and fixtures shall become the property of the municipality in which it is located.

B. Personal Property. All other tangible and intangible school personal property, including movable equipment, furnishings, textbooks and other curriculum materials, supplies, inventories, software, leases, licenses, rights of use and records shall become property of the regional school unit as successor of the SAUs.

The regional school unit board may require such assignments, bills of sale or other instruments of transfer as in its judgment is necessary to establish the region's right, title and interest in such personal property.

Lease Purchase Agreements

Name of SAU	Year Issued	Original Principal Amount	Asset Acquired, Constructed or Renovated	Principal Balance as of July 1, 2008	Final Maturity Date
MSAD 9	2003	335,822.00	Portables	69,509.20	2008
MSAD 9	2006	133,879.00	Portables	86,608.59	2010
MSAD 9	2004	288,188.66	Copiers	119,412.10	2009
MSAD 9	2007	573,590.00	Heating/Vent	511,277.02	2016
MSAD 58	2003	62,727.00	Water Upgrade	4,182.00	2008
MSAD 58	2006	114,610.83	Copiers	90,529.58	2011
MSAD 58	2007	364,769.10	Computers	364,769.10	2011
MSAD 9	2003	51,007.00	FAME-Oil Clean Up (Hows Corner Site)	51,007.00	Unknown
MSAD 58	2007	Priced/storm	Plowing/Sanding	Priced/Storm	2009

The following have not been finalized as of July 1, 2008

MSAD 9	2008	236,916.00	Heating/Vent	236,916.00	2017
MSAD 9	2008	220,150.00	Wood Boiler	220,150.00	est. 2018
MSAD 9	2008	224,652.00	Wood Boiler	224,652.00	est. 2018
MSAD 9	2008	457,202.73	Computers	457,202.73	2011
MSAD 9	2008	79,850.00	Bus	79,850.00	est. 2012
MSAD 9	2008	79,850.00	Bus	79,850.00	est. 2012

SAU	Project Description	Principal Amount	Date Authorized by SAU Legislative Body
MSAD 9	Mallett School	To be determined.	Expected Referendum Fall 2008
MSAD 9	MBHS/FRATC	To be determined.	Expected Referendum Fall 2008

C. Defaulted Debt is Excluded from Being Assumed. Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, except where legally required to do so, the region will not assume any bond, note or lease purchase agreement as to which the SAU is in breach or has defaulted.

7. The assignment of school personnel contracts, school collective bargaining agreements and other school contractual obligations.
(Voted November 1, 2007)

A. School Personnel Contracts. Pursuant to Section XXXX-43(5), individuals who have employment contracts with any of the SAUs on the day before the operational date shall become employed by the Western Mountains School District as of the operational date, and their contracts shall be assumed by the Western Mountains School District on the operational date. This provision does not prevent the existing SAUs from terminating or non-renewing the contracts of employees in accordance with applicable law before the operational date of the Western Mountains School District. The list shall be updated and made final no later than the day before the operational date of the Western Mountains School District.

B. School Collective Bargaining Agreements. The following collective bargaining agreements to which the SAUs are a party shall be assumed by the regional school unit board as of the operational date:

EXHIBIT 7B

SAU	Positions Included in Bargaining Unit	Next Termination Date
SAD 9	Teachers	August 31, 2010
SAD 9	Secretaries, Ed Techs, Bus drivers, Custodians, Maintenance, Mechanics	June 30, 2009
SAD 58	Bus drivers, custodians	June 30, 2008 (still negotiating)
SAD 58	Teachers	August 31, 2009

All of the employer's rights and responsibilities with respect to collective bargaining shall be fully assumed by the Western Mountains School District Board as of the operational date.

The Reorganizational Planning Committee voted to recommend to the SAD 9 and SAD 58 Boards that they not extend further any existing personnel contracts that now expire later than June 30, 2009.

C. Other School Contractual Obligations. A list of all contracts to which the existing SAUs are a party and that will be in effect as of the operational date.

No contracts exist at the present time.

8. The disposition of existing school funds and existing financial obligations, including undesignated fund balances, trust funds, reserve funds and other funds appropriated for school purposes.
(Voted November 15, 2007)

A. Existing Financial Obligations. Pursuant to Section XXXX-36(5) the disposition of existing financial obligations is governed by this plan.

Existing financial obligations shall include the following:

- (i) all accounts payable;

each of the former school administrative districts and municipal school units must be used to reduce that unit's or district's local contribution to the regional school unit within the first three years of operation of the new regional unit. Unless the Legislature otherwise provides, in the case of SAD No. 9 and SAD No. 58, the school board of the district shall specify in writing to the regional school unit board how the region shall allocate credit for transferred remaining balances between municipalities in the SADs. Unless the Legislature otherwise provides, if the district board has not specified in writing to the regional school unit board how this allocation shall occur, then the transferred remaining balances shall be credited to the district's members in proportion to their respective shares of that portion of the total local costs of the region allocable to all of the district's members for the operational year.

Transfers of remaining balances by SAD No. 9 and SAD No. 58 shall occur before the districts have closed their accounts and ceased normal operations. Transfer of the remaining balances of the Plantations may occur within the period specified by Section XXXX 43(4).

C. Reserve Funds. SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of reserve funds to the regional school unit. Unless otherwise provided by applicable law, a transferred reserve fund shall be used in accordance with its original purpose to benefit a school or schools of the SAU. Transferred reserve funds shall be subject to Title 20-A M.R.S.A. § 1491, except that the transfer of funds in a reserve fund or a change in purpose of the fund may only occur in such manner that the funds continue to benefit the members of the SAU that transferred that reserve fund to the region.

D. Scholarship Funds. SAUs shall transfer remaining balances of scholarship funds to the region. Scholarships shall be limited to the original pool of potential recipients unless otherwise provided by the donor or by applicable law.

E. Trust Funds. SAUs shall transfer trust funds to the region. The regional school union board shall be deemed the successor trustee for all purposes, except as provided by the trust or by applicable law.

F. Ownership of Funds and Accounts. All of the school accounts and funds of the SAUs shall become the property of the Western Mountains School District on the operational date, and the treasurer of the Western Mountains School District shall have the authority of those accounts.

G. Ministerial/Plantation Land Trust. These land trusts shall remain the property of the plantation or municipality.

year for submission to the voters of the region. The budget format, approval procedures and assessments for the regional school unit's first operational year budget shall be in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 1482-1489. The Western Mountains School District Board shall have all necessary authority for those purposes. This shall be considered the first year of use of the budget validation referendum process for purposes of determining the continued use of the budget validation referendum process every three years pursuant to Section 1486(1).

The Western Mountains School District Board shall be authorized to take all other actions and shall have all other authority provided under state law to prepare for the regional school unit to become operational on July 1st of the first operational year; including the authority to open and maintain accounts, to incur expenses not to exceed \$ 500,000 to be allocated among the regional school units' member SAUs in accordance with their most recent April and October resident pupil count and to file applications for school construction projects and revolving renovation fund loans and other available funding.

B. Transition Plan for Personnel Policies. All personnel policies existing in the previous school administrative units shall continue to apply to the same employment positions until the RSU board develops and adopts region-wide policies. After the operational date, the Western Mountains School District Board and superintendent will develop and adopt region-wide policies in accordance with applicable law.

10. Documentation of the public meeting or public meetings held to prepare or review the reorganization plan.

Minutes of the following public meeting(s) held to prepare or review the reorganization plan are attached as Exhibit 10-A:

Note: Attach minutes of each meeting listed below.

Exhibit 10A

Date of Public Meeting	Time	Location
09/20/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
09/27/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
10/04/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
10/11/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
10/18/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
10/25/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
11/01/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
11/08/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School
11/15/2007	6:30 pm	Strong Elementary School

12. An estimate of the cost savings to be achieved by the formation of a regional school unit and how these savings will be achieved.

It is difficult to project any cost savings and increases realized from school consolidation, at this time, due to changes in local valuation, projected state revenue, and student enrollment. All school systems within the proposed unit have seen a dramatic decline in students enrolled over the last fifteen years.

It is our belief that the penalties currently projected (~ \$500,000+) will surpass any additional start up costs. The current law states that the penalties are scheduled to change each year.

Areas where a consolidated district is likely to see initial/start-up costs are:

- Legal fees (real property, policy development, employment/equipment contracts)
- Audits
- Duplication of positions (administrative, teacher, support staff, etc.)

There is likely to be some transitional costs also associated with a consolidated unit (5 school boards, book keeping systems, etc.) These costs will be incurred from the time of the election of a consolidated board of directors and currently sitting school boards and school systems.)

Areas for potential long term savings:

- Administrative services (Central Office, Transportation, special education, facilities, etc.)
- Central Office functions
- Hot Lunch
- Staffing (professional and support)
- Adult Education
- Joint purchases
 - Fuel
 - Textbooks
 - Supplies and materials
 - Insurance
 - Professional Development
 - Technology

Reference Section 13 A for additional information

****Current cost savings through shared services:**

2007-2008	\$55,284
Accounts Payable services, Special Ed clerical, and Music programs	

13. Such other matters as the governing bodies of the school administrative units in existence on the effective date of this chapter may determine to be necessary.

Co-Curricular Recommendations (Voted November 8, 2007)

1. **The committee recommends the continuation of existing co-curricular activities in each school.** (Rationale: Each school has a wide variety of co-curricular activities supported by skillful teachers and coaches and energetic community members. Many of these activities provide unique opportunities for children. This diversity across the new district should be encouraged.)
2. **The committee values expanding opportunities for students in the new district and recommends increased access to co-curricular activities at the high school level (grades 9-12). The committee also encourages the future board to extend this policy to students in grades 7 and 8.** (Rationale: Both high schools offer a rich variety of extra-curricular activities. Where feasible, students from one school should have access to activities at another school. For example, a Mt. Blue High School student who wishes to play soccer at Mt. Abram High School would have an opportunity to transfer to that school for both the academic and co-curricular activities.)
3. **The committee recommends that if a co-curricular activity is not offered at one high school, a student would have access to that activity without necessarily having to transfer to that high school. For example, a Mt. Abram student who wishes to play football should have access to the Mt. Blue program without having to transfer to Mt. Blue High School.** (Rationale: This recommendation maximizes choice for students, where feasible.)
4. **Finally, on a broader level, the committee recommends that students have choice regarding the high school they wish to attend based on their overall interests and needs.** (Rationale: Each high school has special strengths and unique characteristics and students in the district should have an opportunity to take advantage of these strengths.)

Note: Members of the committee recognize that certain recommendations may ultimately need to be approved by the Maine Principals Association.

Elementary Education (Voted November 15, 2007)

1. Bring elementary school grade level teams/ teachers together, in the spirit of collaboration, in order to:
 - a. Examine the similarities and differences of their programs, resources and support services.
 - b. Examine the standards taught at each grade level with an eye to better align them in terms of both content and priority.
 - c. Assure that all elementary students have access to similar academic programs and support services, especially in the areas of foreign language and guidance.
 - d. Assure that elementary students are provided with the tools and opportunities to ensure their school “transitions,” especially to high school, are successful.

Adult Education

The recommendation is to provide countywide educational opportunities with a seamless continuum of services from basic Adult Education literacy to college preparation classes as well as job and employment training programs. A learning center in Farmington will be the “Hub” with “spokes” radiating out to every corner of the county with all administered by a central office for paperwork, reporting, and organizational issues. A northern office at Mt. Abram will serve the northern county communities. The administration in this countywide plan will include one Adult Ed Director, two coordinators - one in Farmington and one at Mt. Abram, staff in Farmington, an administrative assistant at Mt. Abram - (part time Adult Ed, part-time high school secretary) – and a county wide Adult Ed liaison/resource developer and grant writer.

13-A. Plans to reorganize administration, transportation, building and maintenance and special education.

The following charts are provided to illustrate possible budget changes after consolidation, and are not intended to restrict the authority of the RSU Board and the voters to determine the budgets of the RSU.

		2007-08		2007-08		2007-08		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
		#	SAD #9	#	SAD #58	Combined		2007-08		IF 3% increase		3% increase		3% increase		3% increase	
		staff	Budget	staff	Budget	Total	staff	Consolidated	IF	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated	Consolidated
School Board																	
	Stipends & Mileage	15	9,500	9	8,306	17,806	25	25,000		25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
1	Purchased Services		50,000		30,000	80,000		80,000		82,400	82,400	84,872	87,418	90,041	90,041	90,041	90,041
2	Insurance		15,000		13,120	28,120		17,000		17,510	18,035	18,035	18,576	19,134	19,134	19,134	19,134
	Postage		8,000			8,000		8,000		8,240	8,487	8,487	8,742	9,004	9,004	9,004	9,004
	Advertising/Printing		16,975		5,000	21,975		17,000		17,510	18,035	18,035	18,576	19,134	19,134	19,134	19,134
	Supplies & Equipment		1,000			1,000		1,000		1,030	1,061	1,061	1,093	1,126	1,126	1,126	1,126
3	Dues & Fees		12,000			12,000		12,000		12,360	12,731	12,731	13,113	13,506	13,506	13,506	13,506
4	RAN Interest/Svc.Chgs.		5,000		2,400	7,400		5,000		5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Contingency		50,000		10,000	60,000		60,000		60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
	Sub-Total		167,475		68,826	236,301		225,000		229,050	233,222	237,518	241,944	241,944	241,944	241,944	241,944

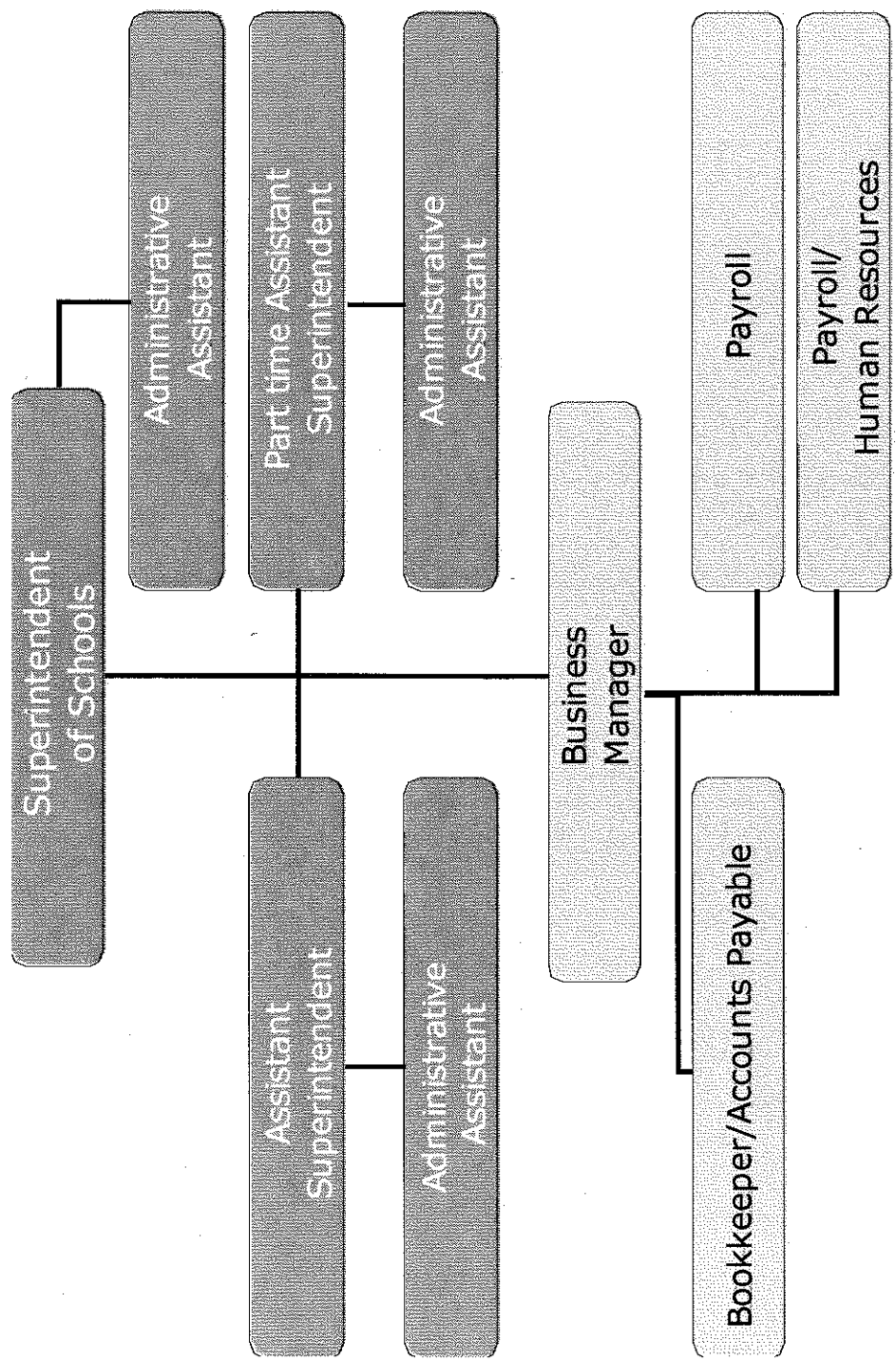
Operation of Building - New Sharon Central Office

Salary & Benefits		0.2	7,847	0.2	7,847	7,847		7,847		8,082	8,325	8,575	8,832	8,832	8,832	8,832	8,832
Disposal & Recycling			2,900			2,900		2,300		2,369	2,440	2,513	2,589	2,589	2,589	2,589	2,589
Repairs & Maintenance			9,500			9,500		20,000		20,600	21,218	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
5	Insurance		2,331			2,331		600		618	637	656	675	675	675	675	675
6	Communications		7,760			7,760		7,760		7,993	8,233	8,480	8,734	8,734	8,734	8,734	8,734
7	Supplies & Equipment		6,600			6,600		500		515	530	546	563	563	563	563	563
	Electricity & Oil		13,000			13,000		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Equipment		300			300		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			0			0		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sub-Total		50,238		0	50,238		39,007		40,177	41,383	25,769	26,393	26,393	26,393	26,393	26,393

Central Office relocated to currently owned building

- 1 Purchased Services include Auditing, legal, negotiating, software licensing
- 2 Insurance for Errors & Omissions and School Board Liability
- 3 Dues & Fees include Me. School Boards Assoc., Western Me. Educ'l Collaborative, Me. School Supt. Assoc.
- 4 Interest paid on revenue anticipation notes and service charges for checking accounts
- 5 renovations of current space for administrative offices
- 6 Building insurance will be reduced, but contents will still need insurance coverage
- 7 Telephone services will still be necessary
- 8 Current circuit from administrative office to Cape Cod Hill School will be eliminated

Western Mountains School District
System Administration Organization Chart used for cost calculations
(Organizational Chart approved by Governance Committee is attached to
official RPC minutes)



13-B. Cost Sharing in Regional School Units

For the first year of the RSU (FY 2010), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds to include local only debt, calculated on the basis of each municipality's percentage of the total combined additional local funds for the four former school units in FY 09.

For the second year of the RSU (FY 2011), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds:

80 % based upon, FY 09 each municipality's percentage of the total combined additional local funds for the four former school units

20% based upon the same local share percentage for each municipality resulting from the determination of the local contribution under §15688 (ED 279) for 2011.

For the third year of the RSU (FY 2012), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds:

60 % based upon, FY 09 each municipality's percentage of the total combined additional local funds for the four former school units

40% based upon the same local share percentage for each municipality resulting from the determination of the local contribution under §15688 (ED 279) for 2012.

For the fourth year of the RSU (FY 2013), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds:

40 % based upon, FY 09 each municipality's percentage of the total combined additional local funds for the four former school units

60% based upon the same local share percentage for each municipality resulting from the determination of the local contribution under §15688 (ED 279) for 2013.

For the fifth year of the RSU (FY 2014), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds:

20 % based upon, FY 09 each municipality's percentage of the total combined additional local funds for the four former school units

80% based upon the same local share percentage for each municipality resulting from the determination of the local contribution under §15688 (ED 279) for 2014.

For the sixth year of the RSU (FY 2015), each member municipality shall be responsible for its share of additional local funds based upon the same local share percentage for each municipality resulting from the determination of the local contribution under §15688 (ED 279) for 2015.

- 6) tabulation of the town clerk's certification of the results of the voting in each municipality;
- 7) accepting any recount petitions that may be filed pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473; and
- 8) totaling the votes cast for each candidate and notifying the clerks in each municipality, the candidates, and the Commissioner of Education of the final results of the voting and the names and addresses of the persons elected as directors.

In accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A. §1473(1), the clerk of each municipality within the regional school unit shall forward the name(s) and address(es) of the director(s) elected to represent that municipality to the State Board of Education with such other data with regard to their election as the State Board of Education may require. On receipt of the names and addresses of all of the directors, the State Board of Education shall set a time, place and date for the first meeting of the directors and give notice to the directors in writing, sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address provided by the municipalities.

The initial directors elected to the regional board of directors shall meet and draw lots for the length of term specified as follows:

1/3 of the directors shall serve one-year terms, 1/3 of the directors shall serve 2-year terms and 1/3 of the directors shall serve 3-year terms. Since the number of directors is not evenly divisible by 3, the remaining director serves a three-year term.

Farmington, with a total of seven members will have 3 serving three year terms, 2 serving two year terms and 2 serving a one year term.

Wilton with four members will have 2 serving a three year terms, and 1 serving a two year term and 1 serving a one year term.

The remaining 14 towns each have one member so they will draw lots to determine whether their community has a three, two or one year term. So, there will be 4 communities with three year terms, 5 communities with two year terms, and 4 communities with a one year term.

Once the initial terms are served all newly elected members will serve 3 year terms.

13-D. Tuition Contracts and School Choice (Voted November 15, 2007)

1. Tuition Contracts

The following tuition contracts are in existence as of the date of this Plan:

SAU	Other Party	Description	Termination Date
MSAD #58	Carrabassett Valley	Tuition K-8 students to MSAD #58.	2011

The above tuition contract will be assumed by the Western Mountains School District unless terminated prior to the operational date. The Western Mountains School District and Carrabassett Valley may negotiate extensions or renewals of the tuition contract as provided by law.

2. School Choice

The following SAUs offer some or all of their students a choice of which school to attend:

SAU	Description
Coplin Plantation	Offers all students K-12 choice
Highland Plantation	Offers all students K-12 choice

Grade levels in the existing SAUs that have choice of schools as of the operational date shall continue to have the same choices in the Western Mountains School District. In any case where students are required by law to have the choice of attending schools outside of the Western Mountains School District, the Western Mountains School District will not pay tuition in excess of its own tuition rate as established by statute. If the tuition payable to the choice school exceeds Western Mountains School District tuition rate, the additional expense must be paid by the responsible municipality in equal monthly amounts.

13-E. Claims and Insurance (Voted November 15, 2007)

Disclosure of claims

The parties are aware of the following lawsuits, administrative complaints, due process proceedings, notices of claim and other claims existing as of *February 5, 2008*. This list will be updated 30 days prior to the referendum vote. It will be updated again, if necessary, 30 days prior to the formation of the regional school unit.

- A. Shared purchasing or contract agreements;
- B. Agreements for shared staff or staff training;
- C. Agreements to share technology or technology support;
- D. Agreements to provide special education programs and support services;
- E. Agreements to share accounting, payroll and financial management services;
- F. Agreements to coordinate transportation routing and vehicle maintenance;
- G. Agreements to share food service planning and purchasing; and
- H. Agreements to coordinate energy and facilities management.

A school administrative unit may enter into collaborative agreements with other school administrative units and, whenever possible, with local and county governments and State Government, to achieve efficiencies and reduce costs in the delivery of administrative, instructional and non-instructional functions.

A collaborative agreement between 2 or more previous education units may remain in effect after July 1, 2009. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, collaborative agreements in existence on the effective date of this section may be extended or modified by the parties to the collaborative agreement.

Western Maine Educational Collaborative

14. Effect of Plan Provisions, Amendments and Changes in Law

Provisions of this plan that are described as “recommendations” shall not be binding on the RSU Board, but the Board is encouraged to give them careful consideration.

Upon the adoption of the Plan by a majority of the voters of the member school administrative units, any amendment to the Plan shall require approval by a majority of the voters in the RSU.

The Regional Planning Committee reserves the right to revise this Plan if the school consolidation statute is amended before the Plan is submitted to the voters at referendum.

The Regional Planning Committee reserves the right to set the date for the referendum in accordance with state law.